

AIR

MOL-A-6032

Chief, Foreign Division M

7 April 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Operational

ZIPPER/GV A/USAGE Austria

Reference: MKK-W-7077

1. In the light of recent developments with GV A and the partial liquidation of USAGE's political connections, any outstanding questions posed in MKK-W-7077 are probably only of historical interest. For the record, however, a clarification of points contained in your letter are herewith submitted.

2. The information contained in paras 1, a, b, and c was indeed known to us, and was in fact given to [] by [], when [] expressed interest in the Vorarlberg picture from the standpoint of his [] connection to the same office.

3. V-19391 was dropped entirely by USAGE in early 1950, and TT-2 has since that time reported in fact as well as in name. TT-2, as is known, has been ordered dropped by USAGE effective 1 April 1951, and [], who considers TT-2 a more direct, and probably a more productive source of Vorarlberg news than [], intends to have TT-2 contacted by one of his case officers in the near future, with a view to reemployment.

4. Para 1 c is a little misleading, inasmuch as GV A, as far as is known, has no contact with Police Director BRASS in Landau. BRASS is a direct ZIPPER contact, and it cannot be ascertained how much material from Vorarlberg is passed through this channel STERNBACH-BRASS-ZIPPER. Neither can the extent of information passed from V-19391 to V-17500 and thence to GV A be determined. V-17500, it must be remembered, initially made contact with V-19391 and passed V-19391 certain reports, by means of which he hoped to eventually gain an amnesty in Austria from his wartime ASDAP activities. In any event, the BUZZI-CP courier operation referred to in para 1 e was reported almost simultaneously by USAGE, by [] to Vienna, and by ZIPPER. In the case of the ZIPPER report, which was received in a processed form, it could not be ascertained whether the V-17500 or the BRASS channel was employed, or possibly both.

5. Para 2 of referenced MKK-W asks if USAGE can and will provide the names of sub-sources of persons listed in MOL-A-3989. As is probably now well known, USAGE personally contacts only the leaders of each of the sub-groups, such as HH-1, TT-1, and so on. HH-2, 3, 4, etc. are in fact the sub-

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sources of HH-1. Since the time that MGL-A-3989 was prepared, all the remaining USAGE groups have been identified with the exception of the AA group, and we have delivered something of an ultimatum for the immediate provision of details on this group. We were never able to procure from TT-2 the identities of his supposedly numerous sub-sources. The entire TT group has been liquidated now, of course, and perhaps [] will have more success after TT-2 is contacted directly.

6. It is in no way surprising that numerous reports obtained from Austrian police channels crop up now and then from two or three independent sources. An informant who has what he considers a choice bit of information, gossip or fabrication has little trouble in selling it (at a nominal price, of course) to one or more Polizeidirektions in Austria, and because each of the Polizeidirektions are penetrated by probably every U.S. agency in Austria, (and unfortunately not U.S. agencies alone), the report gets wide dissemination. To further complicate the picture, the Polizeidirektion of, for instance, Salzburg will immediately send the report to the Stadtpolizei in Vienna, from where it again gets into the extensive dissemination stream. It would probably be presumptuous to expect any solution to this problem at the present time.

7. We have been, and are continuing to put all of the various component parts of the USAGE complex under a cold analytical light, cutting where it is felt necessary, and retaining at least temporarily that in which a potential is thought to exist. Informal discussions with [], who has a wide grasp of the local Austrian problem as well as the personalities involved therein, has been of tremendous value. When, after a reasonable period, we have decided more definitely which of USAGE's operations are to be retained, a determined effort will be made to put each of his sub-groups into a project form more lucid than has been done to date. When the happy day arrives that this is accomplished, it may prove less wearing on the nerves to wade through the voluminous, ambiguous, and sometimes incoherent correspondence that has accumulated on the subject.

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